FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KARMAL SENDS CONGRATULATIONS TO IRAQI PRESIDENT

GF161750 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, head of the Revolution Council and prime minister, has sent a congratulations message to His Excellency Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq, on the Iraqi national day.

SCIENCE ACADEMY PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM BULGARIA VIA USSR

GF161730 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Solayman La'eq, alternate member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, Revolution Council member and president of the Afghanistan Academy of Sciences, returned to Kabul today following an official visit to Bulgaria.

Solayman La'eq, the delegation accompanying him, and Bulgarian officials discussed the expansion of cooperation between the Afghanistan Academy of Sciences and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He signed an agreement in this regard.

On his way back to the homeland, Solayman La'eq met, at the invitation of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, with Soviet literary figures, writers and scientists. He visited scientific institutions in the Soviet Union.

PRAGUE PAPER INTERVIEWS MINISTER OF CULTURE, INFORMATION

AU141431 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Jul 80 p 5

[Lubor Kazda's undated interview in Karlovy Vary with 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, Afghan minister of culture and information: "The Revolution Continues"]

[Excerpt] [Question] Afghanistan still has to solve considerable problems. International reaction is continuously trying to thwart the revolutionary process in the country. Can the government in such a situation devote its attention to culture?

[Answer] Since the 1978 Sawr Revolution, and particularly in the new revolutionary stage initiated on 27 December 1979, the party and state bodies have been paying great attention to the development of cultural life in Afghanistan. It goes without saying that it is not easy. We must proceed from the country's present realistic possibilities. Six months ago an extensive program was approved comprising support for the theatrical arts, film, literature, libraries, restoration of historical monuments, museums and training of new artists. Despite the short period of time that has elapsed since the approval of the plan we have already managed to do a few things. More than a million volumes of books have been put into distribution; and, for instance, creative unions of actors and writers have been founded and an association for journalists, too, has been set up. We have restored the almost destroyed Afghan museum, the collections of which had been devastated under Amin. In cooperation with Soviet specialists, we are preparing renovations of important cultural monuments. We have even established contacts with the UNESCO for that purpose.

Afghanistan is a state with many nationalities: ethnic minorities such as Uzbeks, Tadjuks, Turkmens and others living there. Their cultural independence practically ceased to exist in the past. The government program envisages preservation of these nations' specific cultural features. This is why programs in their languages are being broadcast by television and radio and why newspapers and journals are published in these languages. We are preparing the publication of textbooks which could be used in schools for instruction in those languages.

[Question] The Western press is trying to create the impression that the government does not find support among the Islamic clergy, as though it could not count on the latter's cooperation. Is this really so?

[Answer] To illustrate the point I will refer to the sphere of culture and information. The government publishes two journals for the clergy's needs and with its help. This aside, considerable possibilities are provided in radio and television daily broadcasts for the same purpose. By the way, the networks' program starts every day with a reading from the Koran and with news from the world of religion. The Ministry of Culture has earmarked special means to be used, after agreement with the clergy, to renovate mosques and to maintain places of pilgramage and other religious sites. In cooperation with the clergy, the state publishing house issues books for the believers. The cultural program adequately respects Islam and there is thus no reason for the clergy not to support this program.

AFP: CITIES SEALED OFF FROM REFUGEES FLEEING BOMBING

BK170356 Hong Kong AFP in English 0240 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Text] Islamabad, 17 July (AFP)--Soviet troops in Afghanistan have sealed off the country's main towns from refugees seeking to escape bombing in the countryside, Western diplomatic sources said here and in Kabul.

Many refugees fleeing their villages have set up camp in Khayr Khanah, 20 km (12 miles) northeast of Kabul, after they were prevented by Soviet troops from reaching the capital, diplomatic sources there said. The same thing was happening in other areas around Kabul, Herat and Qandahar as refugees fled Soviet bombing, sources said.

For every guerrilla attack, the Soviets systematically retaliated by bombing one Afghan village, refugees who managed to get through to Kabul said.

Western diplomats in Kabul said reports mentioned the destruction of at least 50 villages in the provinces of Parvan, Ghazni and Pakhtia. Reports also mentioned thousands of air strike casualties, they said.

The refugees heading for Kabul could cause more trouble to the Babrak Karmal regime than those fleeing the country, observers in Kabul believed. The threat resided not so much in "ideological subversion," but rather in sheer discontent and strain caused by the potential arrival of thousands of refugees in a capital already heavily dependent on Soviet economic aid, they said.

The new Soviet tactic of bombing reprisals began about a fortnight ago after guerrillas ambushed and destroyed three Soviet convoys travelling on major highways in Parvan, Vardak and Bamian provinces, sources said.

Trucks and tankers were set afire and Soviet troops suffered heavy casualties, sources added. When the guerrillas retreated to the mountains after the attacks, Soviet helicopter gunships supported by MiG fighters attacked the villages which were said to give them support, sources said.

Over the past fortnight, sporadic firing and shouts of "Allah Khbar" (God is great) could still be heard at night in Kabul, diplomats there said. Tanks still patrolled the streets at night and there were many reported murders, diplomats said.

According to a reliable witness, an old man was killed in the capital on July 8 because he heckled a soldier. Unconfirmed reports also mentioned that nine people were killed on July 7 during clashes between rival communist factions in a building occupied by the prime minister. One of the heads of the Afghan secret service was allegedly killed in the shootout.

Agitation was also reported in the universities and colleges, while observers noted heavy traffic of cargo and transport planes at Kabul's airport on July 10.

Three journalists, two of them French, recently returned from Afghanistan where they witnessed a big ambush carried out by Afghan guerrillas and the execution of Soviet prisoners.

BBC REPORTS SOVIETS DROPPING 'BOOBYTRAPPED' TOYS

TA170656 London BBC World Service in English 0600 GMT 17 Jul 80

[From "Correspondent Report"]

[Text] About 30 people have been treated in hospital in the Pakistani city of Peshawar near the border with Afghanistan for injuries said to have been caused by booby-trapped toys dropped by Soviet troops in Afghanistan. Terry Mason went to the (?Lady Reading) hospital in Peshawar to speak to some of the victims and sent us this dispatch:

[Begin recording] From their stories a picture emerges of objects that crudely resemble watches, hands and other items being dropped in bundles through aircraft or helicopters. When the bundles hit the ground the spring mechanism scatters them and, according to some victims, the objects have a timing device that prevents their exploding prematurely. One youth told of seeing many of these objects strewn over the path when he was going out to get firewood. He picked up what he thought was a razor case and it exploded, blowing off the ends of his fingers. But most told of green, plastic objects shaped like birds, one wing--they say--is bigger than the other and contains the explosive. And some appear to have become adept at clearing off tracks by picking them up by the smaller wing and throwing them away. One man, however, lost a hand doing this. An elderly man lost a foot by stepping on one after dark and several animals are said to have been killed by them.

I saw the remains of two of these bombs. The first was apparently one of the birdlike objects, the harmless wing still intact, the rest just a rugged scrap of plastic together with the small metal socket. There were code figures stamped on the plastic with the Russian letter P appearing twice. The other objects resembled a larger-than life Swiss watch case made out of some light alloy. Many of these objects, it seems, are being concentrated along routes used by refugees fleeing into Pakistan from the Konarha Province. But in fact several of the victims are local people living in the immediate border area. They are also said to be widely distributed elsewhere in the province, a stronghold of rebel resistance. [end recording]

REPORGAGE ON CONCLUSION OF SHAHI VISIT TO NEW DELHI

Rao Toast at Banquet

BK160913 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 0831 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Minister of External Affairs P.V. Narasimha Rao held a dinner in honour of Agha Shahi, foreign minister of Pakistan, in New Delhi on July 15. Proposing a toast Rao said:

"I have great pleasure in welcoming you this evening and I hope you will have a pleasant and comfortable stay.

"I have heard much about the warm and generous hospitality extended by your government to our foreign secretary and to Sardar Swaran Singh earlier this year and we are grateful. All I can say is that we shall endeavour to come up to the high standards set by you.

"Please accept, Excellency, my congratulations on your recent appointment as foreign minister of Pakistan. I am confident that under your stewardship of your country's foreign policy, the cause of peace and freedom will progress towards fulfillment.

"Your long association with the evolution and mechanics of Pakistan's relations with India and your profound knowledge and experience of the international diplomacy will no doubt have a beneficial effect on strengthening India-Pakistan friendship and in composing tensions which have lately threatened to grip our region. We value greatly this opportunity that your visit has provided us to exchange views on matters of mutual interest.

"Excellency, developments during the last 7 months is our region have been a source of grave concern to us. Tensions and problems within nations and between neighbours have tended to assume dangerous proportions owing to a variety of factors, not all of which are either indigenous or germaine to the immediate issues facing the region.

"The impulse to resort to arms and confrontation, we fear, would prove detrimental to the confidence building and to the evolution of stability through mutual cooperation amongst the countries of this region and would invite great power confrontation at our very door step.

"India's concern stemmed from the fact that the security of Afghanistan, as indeed the security of all our neighbours in the subcontinent, is inextricably related to our security and national interest.

"It has been our attempt through bilateral consultations with a number of countries to work for the restoration of peace and tranquillity in the region.

"We have impressed on all the countries concerned that inter-state relations must be governed by the five principles of peaceful coexistence, namely sovereignty, equality, noninterference, nonuse of force, inviolability of frontiers, respect for territorial integrity and noninterference in the internal affairs of each other.

"Our region has in last few years fortunately been free of tension and it is indeed gratifying to note that all the countries of the South Asian region now belong to the nonaligned movement and therefore are committed to conducting their relations with other countries on the basis of the above-mentioned principles.

We are convinced that any solution to the tensions and problems created by the situation in our region must be worked out in a comprehensive manner, taking into consideration the viewpoints and interests of all the countries concerned.

"Fortunately, there has lately been a welcome renewal of hope that there will be a return to the time-tested path of negotiations and peaceful settlement.

"Excellency, we attach the highest importance to the improvement of our relations with Pakistan and to the creation of trust and confidence between our two countries. We owe it to our peoples to continue to work with determination and perseverance toward this end, so that they may be better enabled to tackle the urgent tasks of economic development and nation building.

"The Simla agreement, to which India remains firmly committed, laid down the principles that would govern our mutual relations, established a framework for normalization and chalked out the modalities of resolving differences bilaterally and peacefully.

"We, on our part, have endeavoured to implement the Simla agreement in its entirety and it is our belief, Your Excellency, that your government shares this commitment. We have indeed moved forward several steps since the Simla agreement but much still remains to be done. I have no doubt whatsoever that the governments and people of both our countries sincerely desire the strengthening of the ties between India and Pakistan.

"Friends, may I now request you to join me in a toast to His Excellency General Mohammed Ziaul Haq, president of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; His Excellency Agha Shahi, foreign minister of Pakistan; and the distingushed members of his delegation and to the friendly relations between our two countries and peace in region."

In reply, Agha Shahi said that his country was firmly committed to carry out the Simla agreement. He expressed the confidence that the process would be taken to its logical conclusion to find a just and amicable settlement of the issues between two countries. His country hoped that the Soviet Union and the Afghan Government would enter into a dialogue with the three-member committee constituted by the Islamic Conference for a peaceful solution.

Rao-Shahi Talks

BK161623 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] India has assured Pakistan that it will continue to work in a spirit of trust to improve friendly relations between the two countries. All practical possibilities will be taken into account. At the same time, it is emphasized that polemics and revival of old controversial issues will only hinder the process of normalization.

The foreign ministers of the two countries concluded their talks with a private meeting between Agha Shahi and Narasimha Rao. Earlier, the full delegations of the two countries met for over 2 hours.

An official spokesman has said the two sides have agreed that the Afghan crisis can be resolved only through a political solution. Rao said India will continue its efforts with the help of other countries and nonaligned nations. India will also cooperate with all countries, especially Pakistan, to find a solution that will insure the territorial integrity and nonalignment of all nations concerned.

The spokesman also said Agha Shahi agreed to consider opening another transit point at Kokrapar in Rajasthan to improve travel facilities between the two countries.

According to an Indian delegation source, Rao expressed surprise at Agha Shahi's speech last night in which he had talked of apprehension among India's neighbors over its defense program, its proposal for talks on the ratio of forces and, what he called a just and amicable settlement of Jammu-Kashmir. Rao is believed to have emphasized that raking up such issues was particularly regrettable after Shahi has had detailed discussions with the prime minister. Mrs Gandhi had emphasized that the old attitudes and complexes should be set aside. Agha Shahi, however, reaffirmed that his intention was not to revive controversial issues.

Narasimha Rao accepted Agha Shahi's invitation to visit Pakistan. The dialogue between the two countries will meanwhile be maintained with a visit by Pakistan Foreign Secretary Shahnawax to India.

Shahi News Conference

BK161641 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi told a news conference in New Delhi today that during his 2-day talks with Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi and External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao they discussed the Afghan crisis and its implications for relations between Pakistan and India. He said he exchanged views with the Indian leaders on the initiative of the Islamic Conference and both sides generally agreed that we are on the right track.

The foreign minister said the Islamic Conference standing committee has established contact with the Karmal regime to determine if there is any basis for talks for a peaceful solution of the Afghan crisis. He said Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Habib Chatti has sent a communication to the Karmal regime and a reply is awaited. He said the standing committee has offered to hold talks with the Karmal administration in its capacity as the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan but not as a government, as the Islamic countries do not recognize it. He said the Islamic Conference's new proposal has been conveyed to the Soviet Union.

Agha Shahi said the climate of relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union has improved and a dialogue is taking place between the two countries through diplomatic channels. The foreign minister said the proposal for talks with the Karmal administration as one of several political parties in Afghanistan offered an honorable way out.

Agha Shahi held another round of talks with Indian External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in New Delhi today. The talks are reported to have centered on the Afghan crisis and particularly on matters relating to the normalization of relations between Pakistan and India.

More on News Conference

BK161625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Agha Shahi told a press conference that references by his country to Kashmir in various international forums are in the framework of a general foreign policy position. This does not mean that attempts have been made to internationalize the question, nor is it contrary to the Simla agreement.

Agha Shahi said that India and Pakistan have different perception about their military requirements. The matter will be taken up later, but the consultations between the two countries should be continued. He said certain proposals are under consideration to expand the commercial relations on the basis of mutual benefit. A steel mill being set up in Pakistan will be using Indian iron ore.

Shahi, who is the chairman of the three-member standing committee set up by the Islamic foreign ministers on Afghanistan, said that the Islamic countries will not have any dialogue with the Karmal government in Kabul as that could involve its recognition. It had, however, offered to hold discussions with the ruling People's Democratic Party.

Spokesman's Statement

BK170236 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1635 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Official spokesman's statement on July 16 India-Pakistan talks:

In the context of Pakistan's proposals for determining the level of forces and Agha Shahi's reference to apprehension among India's neighbours on India's large defence capabilities, a matter of concern to all its neighbours, and reference to Kashmir, the official spokesman said that India was surprised Agha Shahi had made these references after meeting the prime minister during which India-Pakistan relations were discussed and the importance of the political framework provided by the Simla agreement was emphasized. Our prime minister emphasised that the old attitudes and complexes which had governed relations between India and Pakistan so far should be set aside.

The spokesman pointed out that India had repeatedly assured Pakistan that it had nothing to fear from this country, that India was not insensitive to Pakistan's security needs. In spite of this, the Pakistan foreign minister chose to speak on this. India was surprised at the content of a speech made by the visiting Pakistan foreign minister at the dinner hosted in his honor by the Indian foreign minister on July 15.

The Indian foreign minister frankly conveyed his surprise to Agha Shahi at commencement of the second round of talks between the two countries on July 16. The Pakistan foreign minister made it clear to our foreign minister that the objective of his speech was not to revive controversial issues and it should not effect the positive element in evolving Indo-Pakistan relations. The spokesman said India was surprised that Agha Shahi was chosen to speak for all of India's neighbours when he referred to the acquisition of arms by India.

During the official talks, Agha Shahi gave details about the internal development in Afghanistan and said Pakistan was not assisting the rebels. The situation there was unstable and there was resentment against the Karmal regime. The Indian foreign minister reiterated India's determination to deal with the situation politically. He emphasized the following points: India is committed to continue its endeavours to deal with the situation politically, both individually and through the nonalignment movement. Agha Shahi had generally referred to the lack of anything tangible achieved by the nonaligned countries to which our foreign minister said that any effort by the nonaligned movement had to be cohesive and unified. Further, he said that India had take a principle stand questioning great power presence and interference in the region. At the same time India was rational in expressing its views on how to resolve the Afghan issue. India had no slant or inhibition on basic issues involved.

Our foreign minister said India was willing to cooperate with all countries and Pakistan to find a solution to the Afghanistan question in a manner which will take factors into consideration including its territorial integrity, security and nonalignment. India made it clear to Pakistan that polemics and cosmetic argument to maintain the status quo in bilateral relations would be regrettable. Kashmir and a reduction in armed forces are matters which had been discussed earlier and if they had to be raised again by Pakistan, it should have been done in a bilateral forum rather than in public, the Indian foreign minister pointed out. Such proposals had to be discussed primarily at operational level through diplomatic channels instead of in public unless the objective was just a public statement and not moving forward [as received] any bilateral ties. The Indian foreign minister said that mentioning such issues did not serve the objective of creating an atmosphere of confidence and trust on which two countries had agreed. Official sources said that Agha Shahi saw reasons in the Indian foreign minister presentation and said that no misunderstanding should be caused by his statement. He would try to put the matter in perspective. Specific bilateral issues discussed were improvement of travel and tourist facilities. Pakistan agreed to consider the opening of another border point at Kokrapar in Barmer district of Rajasthan. The expansion of exchanges in the cultural fields would be examined as also improvement of facilities for visiting religious places. A list of pilgrimages will also be considered. Both foreign ministers noted that atmosphere [word indistinct] and frankness was a significant characteristic of the present round of talks which was fruitful, said the official spokesman.

Shahi Departure Statement

BK170756 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Text] Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi has described his talks with Indian leaders as timely and highly constructive. Talking to newsmen at Delhi airport before leaving for Islamabad today, he said the talks were held in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness. He felt that the two sides were able to acquire a better understanding of each other's point of view on regional developments and measures to carry forward the process of normalization. Mr Agha Shahi said that both sides have agreed to continue the process of consultation at ministerial and official level.

In a statement, Mr Agha Shahi said the two sides have discussed the steps to facilitate travel, trade and cultural exchanges. He was of the view that serious developments in the region provide historic opportunity to the two countries to overcome their differences and work together for the welfare of the people.

Mr Agha Shahi appealed to the Indian press to make a positive contribution toward promoting a better understanding between the two people in the interest of peace and stability. He criticized the Indian press for what he called uniformly negative reporting of the talks.

Mr Agha Shahi was seen off at the airport by External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao and others.

AFP Report

BK170758 Hong Kong AFP in English 0640 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 17 July (AFP)--Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi concluded a two-day official visit to India today with the surprise remark that he was disappointed over the "uniformly negative reporting" of his talks.

Mr Shahi, however, told the press before emplaning for Islamabad that his discussions with Indian leaders were "timely and constructive."

Mr Shahi, who was seen off at the airport by Foreign Minister Narasimha Rao and Foreign Office officials, said much of what had been reported never transpired at his talks.

Reading from a prepared statement, he said: "There is a marked dissonance between the substance and spirit of official discussions and their distorted reflection in the Indian news media.

Mr Shahi accused the Indian press of having "misrepresented" his references to the Kashmir dispute in his after-dinner speech on Tuesday. Mr Shahi defended his remarks on Kashmir saying that Pakistan believed his references to Kashmir were fully in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Simla agreement.

Indian press reports this morning said Mr Rao had taken exception to Mr Shahi's remarks on Kashmir as well as his statement that India's neighbours were concerned over India's efforts to rearm herself with sophisticated weapons.

Mr Rao, according to the reports, had used the terms "polemics" and "cosmetics arguments" while reacting to Mr Shahi's remarks at the opening of the final round of talks between the two leaders yesterday.

Mr Shahi deplored the press reports in the light of what he called "considerable rapport between the two sides as a result of talks on major issues of common interest."

The Pakistan foreign minister also reacted strongly to a newspaper headline which read: "Pindi Violating Simla Pact: Mrs Gandhi."

The report quoted Mrs Gandhi as telling the lower house of Parliament that she had informed Mr Shahi that Pakistan acquiring sophisticated weapons from different countries did not reflect the spirit of the Simla agreement.

Mr Shahi declared, in his departure statement, that Pakistan had not acquired sophisticated arms from different countries.

Referring to his talks with Mrs Gandhi and Mr Rao, Mr Shahi, nevertheless felt that "both sides were able to acquire a better understanding of each other's viewpoint on regional developments and measures to carry forward the process of normalisation between the two countries."

A joint press statement issued here at the end of Mr Shahi's visit said the two countries had agreed to continue their dialogue on matters of mutual interest.

It was also agreed that the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan would have their next round of discussions in New Delhi at a mutually convenient date in the near future, the statement added.

During his talks with Mrs Gandhi, Mr Shahi handed over a message from Pakistan President Ziaul Haq to the prime minister. He also invited Mr Rao to visit Pakistan which was accepted, the statement said.

CONCERN EXPRESSED ON U.S., PRC ARMS SUPPLY TO PAKISTAN

BK170905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Text] India has conveyed its concern to the Governments of the United States and China on the supply of arms to Pakistan.

In a written reply, External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao told the Lok Sabha today that while there is better appreciation in Washington about India's views, Beijing's response has been that its assistance to Pakistan is not directed against India. The Chinese have also expressed the hope that relations between India and Pakistan and India and China will improve.

The reply also referred to the reported exchanges between the United States and China for the supply of American military equipment to Beijing. India believes that these developments would affect the security environment of Asia, particularly of India.

GANDHI CRITICIZES PAKISTANI MILITARY BUILDUP

BK160953 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi informed the Lok Sabha today that she had made it clear to visiting Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi that the way Pakistan is arming itself does not reflect the Simla spirit.

She disclosed this while replying to a supplementary during question time in the Lok Sabha today.

She, however, said that the issue of Pakistan acquiring a nuclear bomb was not specifically mentioned during the talks.

Earlier, replying to the main question, Minister of State for Defense C.P.N. Singh said that for the first time some Pakistani tanks have been fitted with 105-mm caliber guns. He added that all development around the country including the military buildup in the neighborhood is being constantly reviewed in order to upgrade the country's defense preparedness.

PANDEY REPORTS ON EFFORTS TO SOLVE RIVER WATERS DISPUTE

BK151632 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 15 Jul 80

[Text] Union Minister for Irrigation Kedar Pandey has said differences between India and Bangladesh on the sharing of the river waters are persisting. Reporting on the recent Dacca meeting of the joint commission on river waters to the Lok Sabha, Pandey said it has been decided to redouble the efforts for solving the differences.

Pandey told the house that under the 1977 agreement the studies had been to be completed within 3 years and a scheme which was feasible and economical had to be recommended. Only 4 months remained for the period to lapse and the studies have not yet been begun. Bangladesh, he said, had been insisting on making Nepal a party to the Joint Rivers Commission. India has not been able to accept the proposal. The Dacca meeting also decided that while discussions can go on in the joint commission, the subject may be studied at other levels also to arrive at an early solution. The next meeting of the commission is to be held in New Delhi by the end of next month.

FOREIGN MINISTER SHAHI RETURNS FROM INDIA

BK170902 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Text] Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, on his return from New Delhi to Islamabad airport, said in a statement that the talks in India were held in a friendly and frank atmosphere. The talks helped the two sides to better understand the developments in the region and measures to carry forward the process of normalization of relations. He said the two countries have agreed to hold consultations at official and ministerial levels. The Indian foreign minister has expressed his readiness to visit Pakistan, and Shahi hoped that the dialogue with him will continue. However, he said, he was surprised at the negative reportage by all Indian newspapers of his visit in view of the understanding reached on major issues of mutual interest during his Delhi talks. Agha Shahi made a similar statement at the Delhi airport before his departure for home.

ROMANIAN OFFICIAL MEETS WITH ZIAUL HAQ, MINISTERS

GF161910 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Gheorghe Petrescu, Romanian minister for machine-building industry, met with President Ziaul Haq in Islamabad this afternoon. They exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Retired Lt Gen Ghulam Hassan Khan, the federal production and industries minister, and the Foreign Ministry secretary were also present on the occasion.

Mr Gheorghe Petrescu and Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, federal finance, commerce and coordination minister, reviewed progress on joint Pakistani-Romanian projects. They also considered cooperation in cement production and tractor building.

While welcoming the respected guests, the finance minister said Pakistan greatly values economic cooperation between the two countries. The Romanian minister said prospects for close bilateral economic cooperation are very favorable.

The Romanian delegation also met Rear Adm Mohammad Fazil Janjua, federal food, agriculture and cooperatives minister, and reviewed the progress of agricultural projects. The Romanian minister informed the agriculture minister that he had brought details for establishing, with Romanian assistance, a sunflower farm in Punjab. Mr Janjua said Pakistan wants to increase production of oil seeds and will therefore consider the Romanian proposal immediately. They also considered prospects of cooperation in other agricultural areas, including agricultural-based industries.

Meeting With Communications Secretary

GF161514 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Jul 80

[Text] The Romanian delegation, led by Minister for Machine-Building Industry Gheorghe Petrescu, met with the Federal Communications Ministry secretary in Islamabad today and exchanged views on furthering prospects of cooperation in shipbuilding, public transportation and the telephone industry. The delegation also met with the Railways Ministry secretary.

SRI LANKA

GOVERNMENT DECLARES STATE OF EMERGENCY

BK161637 Hong Kong AFP in English 1621 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Colombo, 16 July (AFP)--The Sri Lanka Government today declared a state of emergency and enforced several measures to deal with a threatened general strike planned for Friday [18 July] by opposition trade unions.

It brought into operation the public security act with immediate effect declaring strikes in the essential services as illegal.

All leave of public sector employees was also cancelled. The government warned all employees in the essential services that those who do not report for work on Friday following the strike call would be considered to have vacated their posts and that they would be guilty of offences punishable by court. It said steps will be taken to recruit personnel to fill vacancies created by those who go on strike.

The government took these measures after the cabinet at its weekly meeting today considered ways of tackling the threatened strike spearheaded by trade unions affiliated to Marxist political parties.

Meanwhile, volunteers of the army, navy and air force began reporting to their respective headquarters today following a mobilisation order issued by the government yesterday.

Political sources said opposition trade unions and what the government described as "politically motivated organisations" were promoting industrial unrest and were planning to bring their campaign to a climax with a general strike just at the time the government would be celebrating its third anniversary in office this weekend.

A section of railway employees has been on strike for the past one week while workers in the government press walked out today.

Meanwhile, nurses in government hospitals, who kept away from work yesterday after submitting sick notes, returned to their posts today wearing black bands. A spokesman for the 5,000-strong union which paralysed work in the government hospitals yesterday by their work stoppage said their action was designed as a protest against the government's delay in granting their demand for an immediate salary increase and better promotional prospects.

The trade unions have called for a general strike demanding an immediate wage increase and urging the government to bring down the cost of living.

The cabinet at its meeting today also decided to grant a special cash allowance to all employees in the essential services in the state sector who report for duty during the strike.

It also decided to hold three mass rallies this week-end at which President J.R. Jayewardene, Prime Minister Ranasinghe Premadasa and other ministers will speak. They will explain the folly of causing a stoppage of work which will hinder the development programs as well as cause an immediate rise in the cost of living especially when the government has expressed its clear intention to consider a wage rise in all sectors of the economy, a government spokesman said.

A large number of university students kept away from their examinations for the third day today in support of a demand by university lecturers for a 40 percent increase in wages.

Pro-government trade unions have pledged their support to the government, charging that the strikes were planned to disrupt development activities undertaken by the government.

COLOMBO SUN CONDEMNS WILDCAT STRIKE BY RAILROAD WORKERS

BK170926 Colombo SUN in English 11 Jul 80 p 7

[Editorial: "'Wildcat' Politics"]

[Text] Political bankruptcy usually manifests itself in different forms at different times and on different levels. Right now the untoward happenings on the railway scene could be classified as a part of this malady. On Wednesday [9 July], the country's trains came to a sudden halt when some of the workers decided to stage a wildcat strike thus leaving thousands of commuters, most of them weary office workers, stranded.

Organised labour have a right to stage protests in a democratic society, but their actions should be ethically, morally and legally justifiable. Wildcat action like the present railway fiasco is therefore condemnable.

While the workers may have genuine reasons to protest, it must be done according to set norms of labour behaviours. Action designed to divert the attention of the authorities would only be counterproductive if the general public is held to ransom. Whether the strikers will gain popular support and sympathy for their grievances is quite unlikely when the public is being inconvenienced in the most unconscionable manner.

Judging by the events and the circumstances that have culminated in the wildcat strike at the railway it is evident that politics has already taken an upper hand. The mere fact that the initial demands about the reinstatement of a dozen workers has been relegated to a second place by a demand for a new wage hike gives ample proof about a political orientation. Spiralling cost of living being a perennial favourite with opposition politicians as well as an ideal drum to beat up dissent among workers, some politicians have not hesitated to take mean advantage. Some of them have openly admitted the power of the railways to cripple the economic foundation of the country. And at a time when things remain very vulnerable due to world inflation the chances of creating choas are rather high.

The government must therefore be extra vigilant about the overt and covert activities of politically motivated saboteurs who are obviously trying all the tricks in their subversive books to discredit its good image among the people and jeopardise the development efforts.

Whoever is trying to make political mileage by creating chaos in the community is in fact indulging in a deplorable exercise; but, at the same time, the authorities must also ensure that these bankrupt elements are not given an iota of a chance to whip up dissension among the workers.

The railway has not been the ideal public service and has continued to roll down a shaky rail for quite some time. But it could be saved if there is a will and co-operation from the people within. But right now the wildcat strike should be overcome at all costs before it becomes uncontrollable. Perhaps an essential services decree would be a realistic move.

STATEMENTS, REPORTAGE CONCERNING COUP ATTEMPT

Bani-Sadr, Khomeyni Meeting

LD161006 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0935 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president met at 1230 today with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and held talks with the imam of the nation on various state issues. Following his meeting with Imam Khomeyni today, Dr Bani-Sadr gave an interview to the PARS NEWS AGENCY regarding the issues raised at the meeting. He said:

Many issues were raised at the meeting today, including Iran's economic situation and its (?shortcomings), and what has to be done to [words indistinct]. In addition, obstructive administrative regulations were also reviewed.

The president added: At this meeting, matters relating to the status of the armed forces and the structure of their administration as well as the need for understanding and issues [words indistinct] were raised.

Dr Bani-Sadr [words indistinct] (?said) the trial of the coup makers will start (?today) or tomorrow, and we have decided [words indistinct] in a decisive manner, and the public also shares the same view.

Regarding the two Iranian officers who fled to Turkey, Dr Bani-Sadr said: These two officers are in jail and we are taking action to extradite them. Regarding the [words indistinct] in the light of the fact that the Islamic consultative assembly is getting ready, Dr Bani-Sadr said: As soon as the Majles is ready the prime minister will be introduced.

Bani-Sadr on Trial Date

NC161058 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Tehran, July 16, (AFP)--A "very large number" of people are still to be arrested in connection with the alleged Iranian military plot discovered last week, Supreme Court chairman Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshtisaid here today.

The ayatollah, who is head of the majority Islamic Republican Party, refused to say how many people had already been arrested but added that their trial would begin "very soon."

The trial would be public and broadcast on radio and television but some of the accused "will certainly be sentenced to death and executed," the ayatollah said.

Later President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr, speaking after a meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, said the trial would begin "on Wednesday or Thursday."

The ayatollah had given his approval and the trial would be held "in a radical manner," the president said.

Ayatollah Beheshtialso hinted that former naval chief and presidential candidate Admiral Ahmad Madani, whose supporters were said to have been involved in the plot, could face government action "over certain problems."

The admiral, who has said he will no longer sit in the Iranian parliament following a demand for him to defend his political record by the parliament's credentials committee, added yesterday that he was forming a new "front for all tendencies which believe in Iran and the Islamic revolution".

Ayatollah Beheshti said he did "not know" if Admiral Madani himself had taken part in the plot.

The ayatollah confirmed that several members of the liberal secular National Front Party had been arrested and warned that although the revolution "has always wished to preserve democratic and social liberties, this does not mean we will remain passive faced with plots and crimes."

Ayatollah Beheshti also indicated that President Bani-Sadr was not a party to the recent decision to close Iran's airspace and frontiers for a week. The decision by the "supreme justice council" was later modified by the governing revolutionary council, which cut the period to two days, the ayatollah said.

BBC Report

TA161539 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 16 Jul 80

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] With Iran's borders firmly closed the authorities in Tehran are to stage a show trial of people accused of involvement in the alleged attempt last week to overthrow the government. The trial, to be held in public, is expected to begin soon. One ayatollah has already said that some people will be sentenced to death and executed. From Tehran, here is Alex Brodie:

[Begin Brodie recording] Iran has shut itself up from the world. The airport at Tehran has seen nothing land or take off since 2130 on Tuesday night. Land and sea borders are also closed. No one is allowed in or out. The reason given is that some of the conspirators, who it is said planned to bomb Ayatollah Khomeyni's home and other targets and install Shahpur Bakhtiar as president, are still in the country and they must be rounded up. Already, according to official figures, some 300 have been arrested. Ayatollah Beheshti, the head of the Supreme Court, pledged ominously that many more would be detained. There was certainty in his tone, as there was certainty when he said that a group of the conspirators would receive the death penalty.

The first of the trials has been promised soon. A senior official said he expected the earliest trial in about a week to be of less than ten leaders. It is not clear yet who will preside, but it will almost certainly be a religious judge and the man responsible for 200 executions in less than 2 months, Ayatollah Khalkhali, has been put forward by some as the ideal man for the job. Little mercy can be expected. President Bani-Sadr came away from an audience with Ayatollah Khomeyni saying the trials would be firm. Since the alleged coup plot, accusations have been thrown around, and the fundamentalists, such as the Islamic Republican Party, are making the running. Political opponents like the liberal national front have been branded as implicated in the coup, though no hard evidence has been produced. [end recording]

Neutralization Staff Statement No 6

LD161744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1635 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to our correspondent's report, the staff coordinating the neutralization of the plot today issued statement No 6 as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O combatant Muslim nation of Iran, the business of smashing the conspiracy network is progressing successfully with the support of the blessed and exalted God. However, in these circumstances, when some of the plotters have not yet been captured and are in hiding we would like to apprise you, honorable nation, of a few points. We emphatically appeal to you to practice the necessary degree of care in carrying out the following points:

1. Part of this plot consists of placing bombs in sensitive oil industry facilities. Certain elements who were to carry out this part of the plot have been captured. There is a large possibility that the remnants of the hireling elements in hiding, who are in the pay of the U.S.-Israeli-Iraqi triangle, may threaten the Iranian oil industry. Therefore, we call upon our combatant brothers in the oil industry, particularly our brothers and sisters in the oil industry's Islamic associations, to stringently control the oil regions and such sensitive points as refineries, pipelines, pumps and other facilities until all the plotters are arrested. We appeal to brothers and sisters in the guards corps, the revolution committees, the national mobilization forces and other armed forces to implement the joint plan for the safeguarding of these areas and we particularly expect greater cooperation from the brave people of Khuzestan;

2. We emphatically call on the law enforcement forces who are responsible for controlling highways to practice greater care in controlling and watching over the highways and we request esteemed travellers to remain cool when searched and to make a point of watching out for any suspicious actions by other travellers;

3. In the present circumstances any event which might exacerbate tension, although it may be just, whether a sit-in or a strike, may be utilized by the hireling plotters. Therefore, the maintaining of calm in these circumstances is utterly imperative. It is axiomatic that the preparedness of the brave Muslim people of Iran will terrify the world-devouring United States, usurping Israel and venal Iraqi Ba'th and will frustrate their plot.

And peace be upon God's good worshippers.

[Signed] The staff coordinating the neutralization of the plot

Neutralization Staff Statement No 7

LD161928 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1638 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Statement No 7 of the staff coordinating the neutralization of the plot reveals the identities of a few plotters who are in hiding, as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. O zealous, martyr-rearing Iranian nation, the shameful U.S. plot hatched by its venal agents in the area, that is, usurping Israel and Iraqi Ba'th, and the discovery of the plot undoubtedly constitute yet another body blow at the international world devourer and its groveling flunkeys. The vast and extensive network of this plot was made up of and organized as two political and military wings and each wing had a definite role to play. As we have informed you in previous statements, certain members of the political and military wings of the plot have been arrested and some of these foreigner-worshipping agents, who are traitors to the Islamic nation, are in hiding. We call upon the Iranian Islamic nation to identify these agents in hiding so that with the grace of God the entire network may be arrested and put on trial.

We now bring to the attention of the Iranian nation the first collection of profiles by those in hiding:

Captain Hamid Ne'mati: This individual is one of the important figures in the hatching of this plot and has no interests except worshipping foreigners, particularly the world-devouring U.S. ghoul, whose hands are soaked with the blood of the world fighters. The details: Name: Capt Hamid Ne'mati; height: 180 cm; weight: 73 kg; long hair, small face, swarthy complexion and speaks rapidly.

Col Morteza Nikbaqeri: This individual is a top cadre of the political wing of the plot and has been in hiding since the exposure of the plot plan. He is a member of the Mowhed brigade.

Dr Mahdi Bahar: The author of books such as "The Heir to Colonialism," who has demonstrated that there are no worse heirs than him and his companions, and the heirs to the mother of corruption of the century, the world-devouring United States. Dr Mahdi Bahar was an active element and theoretician in operations of SAVAK, the infernal machine of suppression and oppression of the regime of Mohammad Reza Khan, the U.S. archflunkey. He is one of the main elements of the political wing of the U.S.-Israeli-Iraqi antihuman plot. The details: height: 170 cm; weight: 72 kg; swarthy complexion and speaks with a Khorasani accent; normally wears dark clothes; short hair and cleanshaven.

These agents in hiding may attempt by various means to remain in hiding or to flee the country's borders. But by the grace of God and with the vigilance of the great Iranian nation the agents of this antipopular plot will be arrested and put on trial. Peace be upon you.

[Signed] The staff coordinating the neutralization of the plot

Beheshti on Coup

LD162032 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, Ayatollah Dr Mohammad Beheshti, president of the country's Supreme Court and member of the Revolution Council, speaking today in a press, radio and television interview on the closing of the country's borders, announced that this step was taken in order to prevent a possible coup in the future and also to prevent the fleeing of plotters of the abortive coup and hirelings and elements affiliated to them.

In another part of the press interview Dr Beheshti said about political and social liberties that the Islamic revolution has constantly attempted to strive toward safeguarding political and social liberties, but this does not mean that it should adopt a soft approach to plots and acts of treason. Every necessary measure will be taken in order to crush plots within the framework of the constitution and in this connection the least magnanimity shown by any official is unacceptable.

As regards the scrupulous application of justice and the removal of discrimination, Ayatollah Beheshti said that under the Islamic Republic, justice is justice when it is equally enforced with regard to all, otherwise it would deviate from justice and turn into a new form of injustice and oppression.

In another part of his speech Ayatollah Beheshti, the president of the country's Supreme Court, concerning the continuation of the work of the Revolution Council, said that once the new government is introduced and obtains a vote of confidence in the Majles and when the Majles is ready to legislate, the Revolution Council, after introducing the members of the council of guardians, will terminate its work.

Trial Date

NC162254 Paris AFP in English 2249 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Excerpt] Tehran, July 16 (AFP)--Trials of those arrested in an alleged military plot to overthrow the Iranian government will begin tomorrow, President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr announced here today, after a meeting with spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

For his part, Ayatollah Mohammed Behesti, head of the majority Islamic Republican Party and Supreme Court chairman, announced the forthcoming "execution of a group of conspirators". He also attacked the National Front--a coalition party of nationalist forces, and one of the few tolerated political organizations--saying that "some of its members have been arrested".

The Moslem foundamentalist leader did not call for the banning of the National Front, but said he was determined to crush all opposition, adding: "The revolution has always tried to preserve democratic liberties but this does not mean we shall remain inactive in the face of plots and crimes.

Regarding the formation of a new government, Ayatollah Behesti said that "there is at present no candidate for the post of prime minister acceptable to both the president of the republic and parliament." The ruling Revolution Council would delegate its legislative functions to parliament as soon as a constitutional "monitoring council" was elected, he said. The Revolution Council's executive powers would cease with the formation of a government, he added.

During his meeting with Ayatollah Khomeyni, President Bani-Sadr was reported to have discussed the role of the forces of law and order, and the need for them to work together. He also briefed Ayatollah Khomeyni on the country's economic situation, the stabilization of prices, and the need to reform certain obsolete laws that stood in the administration's way, a source close to the imam's office said.

The president was also reported to have met the armed forces' commanders to review the country's internal situation following the uncovering of the "plot". This was his second meeting with them since borders were closed yesterday for at least 48 hours to prevent alleged conspirators from escaping.

The headquarters of the fight against the "military plot"--a body composed of army representatives and revolutionary guards--today renewed its calls to the population to help arrest conspirators on the turn, and guard against attacks on the country's oil installations.

Defection of Officers

LD161050 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the Iranian Foreign Ministry announced today that following the flight of a helicopter belonging to the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Turkey, the charge d'affaires of that country was summoned to the Foreign Ministry. The Foreign Ministry, raising the matter with the charge d'affaires of Turkey, demanded the extradition of the escapees and the return of the helicopter. The Turkish charge d'affaires stated that the helicopter would be returned immediately but that the laws between Iran and Turkey should be studied with regard to the extradition of the escapees.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH U.S.. HOSTAGES

Hostage Release Commentary

GF161615 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The release of the American hostage has been received with great satisfaction. U.S. and international circles are still talking about the Islamic revolution's humanitarianism that was clearly demonstrated by the release of the vice consul who was afflicted with an undiagnosed disease.

It appears that the U.S. media have begun to retreat a great deal now that the American people have seen that their media fabricates false news. Inharmony with Carter's policy that is based on winning more votes for the forthcoming presidential election in November, The U.S. media have maligned and spread lies about the Islamic revolution and its leader, Imam Khomeyni. However, successive developments have blunted the U.S. media's influence on U.S. public opinion.

When Carter embarked on his abortive aggression in the Tabas desert under the cover of darkness, the entire American people--even his colleagues in charting policies of aggression--turned against him. Approximately 1 month after the abortive attempt a conference was convened and attended by world liberation movements and representatives of some European governments and parties.

The conference unequivocally protested imperialist aggression and had a great effect on making U.S. public opinion aware of their government's aggression against peoples. The gap between the Carter administration and the American people was greatly widened by the participation in the conference of a high-ranking popular U.S. delegation.

No sooner had Carter licked the wounds inflicted on his pride by tabas when the hostage, Richard Queen, was released, heralding further retreats in Carter's diabolical policies.

Yesterday, observers admitted that the popularity of Carter's principal rival, Reagan, has increased and surpassed Carter's popularity by 10 percent. The confessions of Carter's collaborators in formulating White House policy have exposed Carter's scandals to American public opinion. Former U.S. President Ford's recent remarks about Carter prove that the U.S. regime is retreating. These signals of retreat are proof of the American people's gradual understanding of Carter's policy of aggression against the Iranian and other peoples. The decline in Carter's popularity among the American people is but another inevitable result of the gain in the popularity of the Iranian Islamic revolution within the United States. American citizens realize that the revolution in Iran, contrary to the publicity disseminated by Zionist media, is a revolution of principles and values. American citizens have also realized, as a result of the Islamic revolution's stance toward the East, the West and various regimes, that this revolution harbors no hostility toward peoples. Its hostility is concentrated primarily against regimes that oppress peoples.

The American people's confidence in the Islamic revolution has increased with Richard Queen's release. This event has demonstrated to the entire world that the Islamic revolution is free of hatred or rancor and that it is guided by humane principles.

The release of the American hostage is a clear indicator to those who like to say that numerous centers of power exist in Iran and who harp on this tune whenever differences of opinion such as the U.S. Embassy incident arise. We say to these people: There are no power centers in Iran, as you imagine. There is only a single power in Iran. It is the imamate as embodied in Imam Khomeyni. His word is the law that is obeyed by everyone, from the humblest individual to the president.

Regarding the hostages, the media have said there is no one who can save them from the numerous power centers. The fallacy of this theory has been proven by the fact that the hostage was released as soon as Imam Khomeyni issued the order. Therefore, there is only one power center around which are gathered all the other powers--parties, societies and mass movements. It is he who shoulders the responsibility of steering the country toward the achievement of the revolution's noble aims of "neither Eastern nor Western, but an Islamic republic."

FORMER PREMIER BAKHTIAR INTERVIEWED ON CURRENT SITUATION

LD161232 Paris Domestic Service in French 1120 GMT 16 Jul 80

[(Didier Ades) studio interview with former Iranian Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar; Bakhtiar replies in French--live]

[Text] (Didier Ades) Our guest is former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar. His name periodically hits the news headlines, particularly at the present, when the Iranian authorities have uncovered a plot, a vast plot, aimed at toppling Ayatollah Khomeyni.

Once again your name has been mentioned. It is said in Tehran that you are the spirit behind it. Do you deny or confirm this?

[Bakhtiar] What I can tell you is that a few months ago everyone was asking me what I represented in Iran, what I had. It has been proved by events themselves that I represent a force among the civilians and the military. Only I have no control, and with good reason. These forces, exasperated by the current situation in which they have no means of expressing themselves democratically under Mr Khomeyni's terror regime, may sometimes (?undertake) violent action. It is the natural right of a people to rise when deprived of basic freedoms, the so-called human rights, it is an insurrection, not a plot. Consequently, everything that is happening in Iran at the moment is a reaction, among other things, of popular behavior which at times expresses itself somewhat violently.

[Question] But a structured insurrection, nonetheless, which is what makes people talk of a plot? An insurrection when the masses go out onto the streets, that is one thing. When a plan of action is prepared, that is another.

[Answer] I think that what I would say to you is that whenever the masses--remember that the women demonstrated a few days ago--go out onto the streets, they are attacked by staves or sometimes even by machineguns. The perpetual murders, the atmosphere of terror which Khomeyni is creating in order to make his Islamic regime last is frightful. I think that even in the most difficult times under the shah regime, if the people went onto the streets, the forces of order maintained more respect, more bearing toward them than in the current state of affairs. Consequently, I do not know whether it is structured or not. I do know that the people who have demonstrated or who are demonstrating are said by Khomeyni's supporters to have been incited by Bakhtiar who, after all, is 5,000 km away. Mr Khomeyni himself is in a [word indistinct] better placed situation to express himself and to incite people to revolt. I have never done that. But it is Mr Khomeyni who is pushing the people to revolt.

[Question] But a plot, Mr Bakhtiar, and in Iran there have been a lot of them--at any rate a great many have been reported--this one seems to be more serious than the ones before. That would mean--and I come back to what we were just saying--that the opposition is organizing and structuring itself. Because quite apart from the--if I may use the expression--phenomenon of being fed to the teeth, an insurrection can only take place if people are organized.

[Answer] Yes, I would be very, very happy to know that is so, and I hope that next time it will be broader, more structured and more violent. I have said that Mr Khomeyni is exactly like Hitler. I heard Hitler talk--he said a few months before his death that for another 1,000 years the German state would be nationalist-socialist. Apparently Khomeyni has just said that for 1,000 years the Iranian state will be Islamic. I think the pair of them will suffer the same fate.

[Question] Mr Bakhtiar, can this opposition only exist inside the borders or is it desirable that it should be supported from outside?

[Answer] I think that since the last world war, a dictatorship installed in a country cannot be overthrown without a certain form of external aid. Take, for instance, Indochina, Algeria, the Arab countries. One is always slightly pushed, helped, morally or materially, by forces which are sympathetic to you. [as heard]

[Question] So how do you think the situation inside Iran itself is viewed by the rest of the world? Discreetly, is any state prepared to back a change of regime?

[Answer] I think the West, to mention only the West, and a huge majority of the neutral countries or Third World countries, detest that regime. However, the West has shown a complacence toward Khomeyni which is quite inexplicable, unless there has been a degree of complicity. This obviously makes right-thinking, wrong-thinking [as heard] people say that the American regime, in spite of all the frustration and exaction Khomeyni causes, American imperialism, as we can see, has fairly close relations with, if not Khomeyni, then a certain Mr Beheshti or Bani-Sadr and so forth.

[Question] But why change things today? Do you really think that there is a consensus at a perhaps discreet level?

[Answer] I find that no civilized country, no person of good will with a conscience, no man, if you like, with a moral sense, can agree to what is going on in Iran...[Ades interrupts]

[Question] (?That is) good sense, Mr Bakhtiar, but specifically, is there aid? Have people expressed the intention of giving aid?

[Answer] I think that such intentions exist potentially and I hope they will soon be converted into actions.

[Question] By making such a fuss about the latest plot the Iranian authorities are certainly trying to mobilize the population inside the country. But, at the same time, aren't they risking showing their weakness as well (?in admitting that there are) plots?

[Answer] In my view the regime's weaknesses in the economic, political, social and all other areas areso obvious that there is no need to act like that. On the contrary, every time the regime, as always, fails to respond to the aspirations of the people, what we get is a show--like the American hostages, like the emblems on the envelopes. Apparently that is what pushed the revolution off the rails. We must get back to integrism [integrisme]. Every day, contrary to what Khomeyni was saying a year, or a year and a half ago, I say that things are turning in a completely opposite direction, and in many respects we are getting an infinitely more loathsome form of regime than the one we had 2 years ago.

[Question] What are you doing at the moment, Mr Bakhtiar? You are not insensitive to what is going on in your country; what action are you taking?

[Answer] If I had been insensitive I would have foresaken Iran and gone for a rest on the Riviera. No. I am extremely sensitive, not only to what is happening in my country but also to what is happening in far more distant countries like Cambodia, even Afghanistan, in all such countries. One cannot not be interested when one has a conscience.

[Question] In what way do you show your interest in Iran?

[Answer] Necessarily, I am very interested. It is my country, it is the most important.

[Question] How do you show your interest?

[Answer] I show my interest by preparing cassettes, I send propaganda leaflets, I contact people, nationalist organizations--not communist--I am speaking about a social-democratic nationalism with a national sense and independence. In addition to that, I have contacts, and these contacts of course take the form of whatever organization they can establish on the spot.

[Question] Do you think we have reached a situation in Iran at the moment where the regime will split up, change or [word indistinct]?

[Answer] I do not think....

[Question--interrupting] Or (?will we have to wait) a bit longer?

[Answer] Yes, we will have to wait a little bit longer, unfortunately. Especially since the complacency of the Western countries toward Khomeyni is still at about the same level. There is talk of sanctions, obviously, but people push away with their hands yet come nearer on foot, [several words indistinct] Mr Khomeyni.

[Question] Is there any prospect of a military countercoup? Is it even desirable?

[Answer] That has never been desirable as far as I am concerned. But you must remember that the military, like the civilians, are Iranians and they too have rights. Consequently, a military man also has the right to say his piece and do whatever he can, in his way, if necessary. But the whole population, the Iranian masses who are discontented--and there are a great many of them, especially people who understand, who reason things out, who have a modicum of education, not (?just) the poor [word indistinct] just as much to shout, to yell in the streets--all those people have the right to hold an uprising. It might take a different form next time.

[Question] The health of the shah of Iran, which is particularly [word indistinct] at the present time--is it likely that the end of the shah would alter the political situation inside the country itself?

[Answer] I do not think so, because generally speaking, the issue of the shah is no longer in fashion in Iran. A constitutional regime must be established in a very clear manner by a freely constituted national assembly. Consequently, it is the task and the duty of the Iranian people to give Iran a constitution, before or after the shah's death.

VIOLENCE, UNREST CONTINUE IN PROVINCES

Shahin Dezh Clash

LD161102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to a report from the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the names of the martyrs and those wounded in the clashes in the region of Shahin Dezh were announced by the guards corps of Miandow Ab.

According to a report dispatched from Miandow Ab, in the clashes which took place last Friday, four guards named Majid Hasan-'Ali, Mohammad Reza Pur-Rashti, Mohammad Reza Posht-e Kuhi and 'Einollah Kuhestani were martyred. Three other people, Hamid Mohammad-Darakhti, Mika'll Khodaqoli-Zadeh, and Mohammad Kolahi, were injured.

Weapon Seizure

LD161112 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to a report from the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the public relations office of the headquarters of the gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that, according to a report from the operations column situated in Khoy, in the past 24 hours 65 illegal weapons, including 37 Brno guns, three G-3 guns, 8 Russian rifles, 5 (Semirov) guns and 14 hunting rifles, together with 677 kg of ammunition, were collected from the Qotur region by the personnel of the operations column.

Execution in Hamadan

LD161205 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to a report from the PARS NEWS AGENCY on the verdict of the Islamic Revolution Court of Hamadan, Haj Baqer Moradi was sentenced to execution on the charge of drug peddling and distributing. The verdict was carried out at dawn today.

Guards Resignation

GF161630 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] The commander of the Yasuj Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has resigned. According to a report by PARS NEWS AGENCY, he said disagreement among the corps' leadership is the reason for his resignation.

Referring to the fact that Hojjat ol-Eslam Shaykh Sadeq Khalkhali advocates the same policy as the nation's imam and idol breaker, he states in his letter of resignation that he will continue struggling to eradicate drugs.

I add that the corps commander is Hojjat ol-Eslam Khalkhali's regional representative in the antinarcotics campaign.

Sa'adatabad Delegation

GF161635 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] A Fars Province delegation comprising representatives of the governorate general, the clergy, the guards corps and the gendarmerie arrived in Sa'adatabad yesterday to study local problems as well as the reasons behind recent clashes there.

Our correspondent reports that members of the delegation attended yesterday's funeral service for Yadollah Yar-Mohammadi, who was killed during the recent incidents in Sa'adatabad.

During the service some residents of Sa'adatabad tendered their requests. The people requested, among other things, that Yadollah Yar-Mohammadi's murderer be identified and arrested, that a guards corps and reconstruction crusade be formed, that inefficient and hypocritical persons be purged from organizations, that a gendarmerie squad be formed and that an automatic telephone exchange be provided.

Abadan Drug Law

GF161649 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the Abadan public prosecutor:

By virtue of article 10 or the law calling for increasing punishment for drug offenses and rehabilitating addicts--approved by the Revolution Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran on 9 June 1980--manufacturing, importing, storing, hiding, selling or purchasing drug paraphenalia is forbidden. Offenders are subject to from 2 to 3 years imprisonment. All such items found in their possession will be confiscated and destroyed.

Therefore, in compliance with this law, all law enforcement officials have been ordered to identify and arrest all offenders. The announcement also states: All persons possessing such items will be required to destroy them personally or turn them over to police officers in order to avoid prosecution. Police and gendarmes are required to enforce this law and to identify offenders so they will not be held responsible.

Shiraz Clashes

GF161845 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1400 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Following arguments between a group of Mojahedin-e Khalq supporters and other group in parts of Shiraz yesterday afternoon, a group assembled in front of the offices of the Islamic teachers association and the Muslim students society--who happen to be supporters of the mojahedin organization--requesting that the building be vacated. Scattered clashes between the two groups ensued with approximately 50 persons being injured by stones, sticks and Molotov cocktails.

According to a report by our correspondent, the building was turned over to police at 0230 today and the groups were dispersed. In connection with this event, 45 persons were arrested, some of whom were released immediately.

Meanwhile, a revolution guards spokesman sais that following an argument between persons distributing Mojahedin-e Khalq publications and opponents of this organization, a small clash ensued and spread to several other streets. It finally reached Qasr-e Dasht Avenue, between the intersections of Pomp-e Benzin and Shoreyeh, in front of the offices of the Muslim students society. The groups attacked each other with stones in Qasr-e Avenue. As a result, 50 persons were injured and 7 burned due to explosions in the Muslim students society building. Two persons with several injuries were taken to the hospital.

At around 0100 today, Shiraz revolution guards and local police, who had been present since the beginning of the incident, separated and dispersed the groups without further trouble and arrested 205 persons who did not comply with the guards' ultimatum to vacate the building. Thirteen of the individuals arrested were released this morning.

According to a statement by the revolution guards commander following a search of the Muslim students society officers, the following items were discovered: an ozalid printing machine, a paper shredder, 120 clubs, a large number of posters, a large quantity of photostatic paper and banned publications such as RAH-E KARGAR, PEYKAR and KARKASH. They have been confiscated.

DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Ilam Fighting

LD161749 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, during yesterday's battle between Iranian and Iraqi forces heavy losses were inflicted on the Iraqi mercenary forces. The spokesman of the Ilam governorate general, referring to the high morale of the gendarmerie, army and the guards corps and [words indistinct] the forces stationed at the border were able to silence enemy fire after heavy exchange of fire. He added that during this confrontation six Iranians were injured, of whom five were treated on the spot and one was transferred to hospital. The spokesman of the governorate general added that the entire border in Ilam Province has been mined in order to stop the aggressions of Iraqi forces and to stop those who played a part in the recently discovered coup from fleeing the country. The forces of the army, gendarmerie guards corps and the national mobilization forces are monitoring enemy movements and are ready to crush aggressors. The threat of any counter-revolutionary elements from inside or outside the country penetrating the borders of Ilam Province has been removed.

Further on Ilam

LD161757 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, following the attack by the fighter planes and bombers of the mercenary army of Iraq against Ilam region on the night when the conspiracy of the coup by counterrevolutionary elements was discovered, extensive investigations were launched by officials of Ilam Province concerning the attack itself and the crash landing of one of the bombers which was hit. Following the investigations, yesterday, (Zia'i), the deputy in charge of political affairs of the Ilam governorate general, visited the area by helicopter and studied the attack. At a meeting he said that as a result of the investigations carried out, and according to the reports submitted, the Iraqi bomber which was hit by Iranian antiaircraft artillery crashed near the town of [name indistinct]. The deputy of Ilam governorate general, speaking of the results of this investigation, said that during the same night, as a result of the shots fired by the Iranian antiaircraft artillery at the Iraqi bombers, one of them was hit in the tail and the pilot, who had lost his nerve completely, dropped bombs on the mountains around (Nakhju) and crossed the border, but as a result of being hit by antiaircraft artillery he crashed near the town of (Zorbatiyeh).

Criticism of Husayn Government

LD162000 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] Today we have two interesting news items from Iraq. First is the trip by the Soviet minister of commerce to Baghdad and his discussions with the Iraqi minister of roads and communications during which the expansion of cooperation bwtween the two countries was announced and the Soviet minister promised his Iraqi counterpart that his country will provide Iraq with the necessary help and facilities to safeguard the interests of both countries. The second is the trip by the minister without portfolio of the British Government to Baghdad which was described an an attempt to expand relations between the United Kingdom and Iraq. One should add to this thetrips to Iraq by a Pakistani minister 3 days ago and by the Afghan foreign affairs minister last month, regular visits to Baghdad by Brzezinski and other American officials, and repeated trips to Iraq by Shahpur Bakhtiar, Ashraf Pahlavi, Hasan Nazih and many other international figures, many of whom are well-known in certain respects. And these are only those activities covered by official agencies. Other sources say that Iraq is at present an arena for all Iranian counterrevolutionaries and that each of them in his own way is serving the government of Saddam Husayn in order to protect it from being toppled by a revolution and to find a way to penetrate into Iran and deal blows to the foundations of the Islamic revolution.

In the midst of all this we are observing comedy shows as well. For example, countries hostile to Iran, such as America and Israel, are directly supplying Iraq with offensive weaponry to be used against Iran and providing vital commando training for the Ba'th soldiers. Countries friendly with these enemies are giving Iraq financial help and boosting Saddam Husayn's morale so that he will not feel any weakness in confronting Iran and states hostile to these enemies. Countries which should, in fact, be friendly with Iran are providing Iraq with aid to enable Saddam to confront Iran [word indistinct]. In short, all the countries of the world have been mobilized to prevent Iraq from being toppled by Muslim revolutionaries and to stop the Islamic revolution from going beyond the borders of Iran. All the [word indistinct] of the world are sure that if the corrupt, oppressive government of Iraq is toppled by Muslims, then no one will be able to control the crashing blows of the revolution, and that after the Iraqi Government is overthrown all the countries of the Persian Gulf region will be toppled by their peoples one by one and a great mourning period for international imperialism will begin.

Of course, the different steps taken in Iraq to protect its government are in line with those taken by the Americans and Israelis, together with the British, German and French; and if all of them together, with all their might, try to prevent the destruction of Iraqi Government, we cannot blame them since the issue is that of the survival and progress of these countries, and they are aware that the penetration of the Iranian revolution into even one of the Islamic countries will result in the severence of all the roots that they have spread all over the region in order to suck the blood of these nations.

Amid all this, the role played by the Soviet Union is not quite clear to us. Why, in spite of all the insults addressed to the Ba'th government of Iraq and severe criticism of the crimes and corruption committed by this government, does the Soviet Union send its minister to Iraq in order to try to expand relations and mutual cooperation between the two countries.

If the enemy of our enemy behaves like this, then we should expect no better from enemies posing as our friends. Two divisions of the Pakistani Army have been sent to Riyadh in order to guard the lives of the Saudi royal family. The UAE sells oil to the Philippines in place of Iran and Kuwait says that it will not use oil as a political weapon. It is interesting to note that all these countries were considered friends of the Islamic revolution of Iran and had expressed remorse for their connections in the past with the deposed shah. But now, according to the poem by Shaykh Sa'ideddin 'Attar, they have broken their vows, as he said: Yesterday I vowed and broke my wine glass and today I broke my vow with a glass of wine.

PRESIDENT BANI-SADR TO OPEN TRAINING SEMINAR

LD170410 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Jul 80

[Text] The cultural adviser of the president, in an interview with the central news bureau of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, announced that President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr will open a seminar at 1000 today at the center for the intellectual development of children and youth, located in the building formerly housing the Iran-American society, opposite Shahr-e Qesseh theater.

This seminar, which has been organized by the center for the intellectual development of children and youth, is designed to encourage government employees to spend some of their office hours during the weekends [as heard] on ideological discussions, self-improvement, military training and weapons familiarization.

OFFICIALS MEET TO DISCUSS SECURITY PROBLEMS

LD161744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, at a 3-hour session this afternoon, the acting chief of staff of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the minister of national defense, the commander in chief of the ground forces and supervisor of the country's gendarmerie, the deputy in the Interior Ministry in charge of political affairs, the national chief of police, and the commanders in chief of the navy and air force reviewed the problems of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran and security problems in general. Dr Abolhasan Bani-sadr, president of the country and commander in chief of the armed forces, attended the session.

PARS INTERVIEWS AMBASSADOR ON ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD160950 Tehran PARS in English 0757 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Tehran, July 16 (PARS NEWS AGENCY)--Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait Dr Shams Ardkani, who had participated in the extraordinary conference of foreign ministers of Islamic countries, in an interview with (?PARS reported) in Amman said that the Iranian Government was a member of the Islamic conference from the beginning but in the former regime, Iran in fact was the protector of the U.S. interests at the conference.

After the victory of the Islamic revolution and the prestige that Iran has gained among the Moslems, the role of the Iranian government at the conference was changed. He said that the Iranian Government, among the other Islamic governments, has created a revolutionary Islamic government and was the only government that had political legality from an Islamic point of view, that [words indistinct] conference accepted Iran's points of view, and now the conference could be a place to call for justice of Muslim nations.

Dr Shams Ardakani reminded that formerly the conference issued several communiques in which the aggression of Israel was condemned but the Israel's Government continued its crimes. But now, he added, we said that we should act decisively before Israel and should put political and economic pressures on Israel, and countries that gave military, economic and political aid to Israel should face the consequences. He said, so far Libya and Algeria and, to some extent, Syria have supported Iran's status. Finally (?it was decided) at the conference that the secretary general of the conference should prepare a list of countries that aid Israel and it would be brought up at the next conference to be held on September, simultaneously with the United Nations' General Assembly in New York. When asked which countries disagreed with Iran he replied that they were some African countries such as Gabon. He concluded that if our proposal was carried out it would have severe effects on the economy of oil producing countries and oil importing countries.

CHURCH ENVOY TO SETTLE CATHOLIC SCHOOL STATUS

NC161642 Paris AFP in English 1629 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Tehran, July 16 (AFP)--Hilarion Capucci, apostolic delegate for European Melchites, is at present in Tehran to try, he says, "to settle the problem of Catholic schools in Iran." The former Greek Catholic archbishop of Jerusalem told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE he arrived here "two or three days ago" and would be meeting Ayatollah Khomeyni and President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. He would not, he said, be raising the question of the American hostages, because the sole object of his mission was the situation of the Catholic schools.

He was particularly concerned about the Italian school Andishceh [as received], whose closing was announced after documents were said by the Ministry of Education to have been found linking the school authorities with Israeli organizations. These charges, said Archbishop Capucci, were "clouds that will fade away tomorrow," when the innocence of the priests in charge of the school would be established.

He said that since his arrival he had discussed the Catholic schools problem with Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh and Education Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i.

Archibishop Capucci said he would stay in Iran long enough to settle the problem and expressed the opinion that all Catholic schools in Iran might possibly stay open "under some control from the local authorities."

Last April the Archbishop Capucci, along with three American priests, met the U.S. Embassy hostages. He also had talks with Ayatollah Khomeyni and President Bani-Sadr.

RADIO IRAN TALKS WITH 'OUR REPORTER IN TEHRAN'

GF161530 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] Attention, attention. Telephone contact with our reporter in Tehran has just been established:

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] basically, in any part of the world when a regime decides to close all its borders--the air, road and sea borders--it (?means) that an emergency situation has been established. In diplomatic or even military language, an emergency situation is usually [words indistinct]. [Passage indistinct]

The present Tehran regime [words indistinct] has no means of escape. [Words indistinct] for instance, a pack of cigarettes has reached (?30) tumans; meat is 100 tumans per kilo; [words indistinct] cannot be found at all. The phrase "we do not have" has become extremely common. When there is no electricity, water and [words indistinct] exactly as if we are living during a period of war in a world that has no wars, a world in which [words indistinct] live. [Passage indistinct] And I think the reason is that the (?regime wants to delay its fall by) some hours, some days or some weeks.

[Question] What is the situation in Tehran's business offices?

[Answer] The situation in offices is completely chaotic. (?It is the same) everywhere.

[Question] Are people reporting to work?

[Answer] No. No one in any job,... There are no jobs for people to report to. There are no jobs. Even [words indistinct] marches do not attract any attention. I should say that [word indistinct] in the marches shown on television recently were films from past marches. The participants in the march of unity that occurred 2 weeks ago and (?had been ordered by Khomeyni to call for an erasure of the regime's vestiges) were wearing winter clothes.

[Question] Do the people feel that Khomeyni's fall is imminent?

[Answer] Of course. They have felt this way for a long time. Actually they....

[Question--interrupting] I am speaking in terms of time. Do you think that during the past couple of weeks the people have gegun to feel this? Have they started storing food? What do they think?

[Answer] They have been doing this for quite some time, because [words indistinct]. They are storing (?food) and are right in doing so [words indistinct]. The people are (?on the verge of having a nervous breakdown). As the saying goes: They have had more than they can handle. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Is Radio Iran being heard clearly now or are they trying to jam it with Khomeyni's [words indistinct]?

[Answer] Your radio's voice [words indistinct] and the Pahlavi radio transmitter was....

[Question--interrupting] That is right. We mentioned this is our newscast. But I had another call from Rasht, and they told me our voice was very clear. They said the same thing from Tehran yesterday [words indistinct].

[Answer] That is correct. Reception has improved in the past (?48) hours, but it is still drifting [words indistinct].

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC TOPICS

Danger of U.S.

TA121639 [Editorial report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 11 July carried two commentaries:

The first commentary entitled "The [word indistinct] Action of the Feudal Landlords According to the Prescription of the CIA," says as we have all been informed, a chain of colorful plots hatched by counterrevolution and its U.S. inspirers against the gains of the revolution and the regime of the Islamic Republic is being completed, as (Khamenei) said during Friday prayers, this proves that the enemies of the Iranian revolution are not only not idle, but are trying to strike blows against the revolution and the Islamic Republic, during these difficult times, our country needs the unity of all the forces true to the revolution--especially those who have any kind of religious or political differences--in order to implement the economic plans (?assuring the interests) of the toiling people in the cities and villages.

The big feudal landowners still constitute the main bases of colonialism and wild U.S. and British imperialism in our country. These elements not only resort to oppression and exploitation but pretend to be good Muslims. Unfortunately, as in the past, the pseudoclergy who support the big landowners are numerous. They act contrary to Islamic principles and the imam's recommendations. Many of these pseudoclergymen prevent the implementation of any kind of reforms and especially the implementation of the agrarian law demanded by the Islamic Revolution Council. These elements act according tothe prescriptions of Western propaganda, especially the CIA, and call all the persons true to the "construction war" (jihad sazandegi), leftists or communists, and purge them from many places.

The unity and persistent action of the farmers and all the people united with the revolution will foil the plans of the feudal landlords and their unholy alliance with the pseudoclergy. The second commentary entitled "The Anti-Iranian Actions of the

The second commentary, entitled "The Anti-Iranian Actions of the United States in the Persian Gulf," says the United States is continuing its impudent actions against the Iranian nation, Carter himself has threatened Iran, thus inciting chauvinistic and anti-Iranian feelings in the United States. Carter is trying to make the West European countries participate not only in the economic boycott against Iran but in the U.S. military ventures in the Persian Gulf region.

As we know, countries such as Japan, the FRG and Italy have participated to some extent in the economic boycott against Iran. The United States is now pressuring its Western allies to bring their warships to the Arabian Sea to demonstrate their military power. The United States has also concentrated a large number of its warships in this volatile area.

The reason for this meaningless U.S. act is not to gain the release of the U.S. hostages, because Carter sacrificed them a long time ago. The hazardous aggression in Tabas proved this reality. Carter is trying to maintain the crisis in relations between Iran and the United States at its highest level in order to create new military bases in the Persian Gulf region. The interesting point is that the United States has included its puppet regimes in its anti-Iranian actions. Such unmasked puppets of the United States as Israel, Egypt and Oman aid the United States in establishing its military domination in the Persian Gulf area. Carter has even declared that he is ready to resort to force to defend the Persian Gulf.

The question arises: Whom does Carter wish to defend in the Persian Gulf? No other country has either military bases or military presence in this region. The point is not defending the region, but expanding U.S. military presence to safeguard the oil interests and to crush the freedom-seeking movements and anti-American movements of the countries of our region. The United States wants to implement its domination in the region by force, but the era of U.S. domination has ended. Freedom-seeking movements are soaring in the region and the anti-imperialist movements can and should eradicate the [word indistinct] of U.S. imperialism.

Enemies of Islam

GF131855 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 13 July carried the following commentary:

The commentary was entitled "Supporting the CIA's Lackeys Is Beneath the Dignity of the Iranian Nation's Revolution," and said the failure of counterrevolutionaries to blow up the 'Ali Mosque in Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan, once again showed the vile face of the so-called Muslim strugglers and revealed them as the enemies of the Afghan nation and true Islam who are using the banner of Islam to please their American and Chinese masters. The Islamic nation and the world have seen how the Afghan counterrevolutionaries are not and were not defenders of Islam and Muslims, but a group of murderers who are killing unarmed people, destroying hospitals and schools and doing all they can to create fear and mistrust among the people toward their government which has, in fact, carried out a range of fundamental social changes in the country. These people are only servants of their American masters, whose plunderings have been crushed by the popular and democratic Afghan revolution.

Under such circumstances one cannot ignore the remarks by some of our country's officials who, despite all existing documents, are supporting the Afghan criminals and who have even established a center for these counterrevolutionaries in Mashhad. This is something that can only cause concern among true revolutionaries. Our country's officials are well aware that the staff established in Mashhad for Afghan counterrevolutionaries sends subversive groups into Afghanistan and is in direct contact with counterrevolutionaries in Peshawar, Pakistan. They also know that the Peshawar staff is led by the United States and CIA agents, who while allegedly defending Afghan counterrevolutionaries find the chance to use the Mashhad staff to infiltrate American agents into Iran.

This is happening at a time when the Iranian nation should be following the imam's directives on struggling with Iran's archenemy--America--and safeguarding Iran's revolutionary gains. This support for counterrevolutionaries should be stopped and they should be thrown out of our holy territory. Revolutionary Iran is no place for intrigues by subversive agents against neighboring countries, nor is it an arena for CIA and MOSSAD counterrevolutionaries.

Counterrevolution Threat

TA142054 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 14 July carried two commentaries:

The first commentary, entitled "The Main Danger--The Danger of Counterrevolution and U.S. Imperialism," says the discovery of the recent coup plot against the regime of the Islamic Republic once again is a warning for all the true forces of the revolution to mobilize all their attention on the main issue in our country--safeguarding the revolution and struggling against counterrevolution and U.S. bloodthirsty imperialism.

Any person, group or party, either religious or secular, every person who claims to support the toiling oppressed people but who either intentionally or unintentionally draws the attention of the public to trivial issues is helping counterrevolution. As in the past, U.S. imperialism has shown that when a coup is being prepared, counter-revolution and U.S. imperialism have always made efforts to prepare the psychological grounds while at the same time resorting to force. U.S. imperialism tries to create so-called ideological differences among the true forces of the revolution.

We should not look too far, during these past few weeks all the true forces have justly expressed their concern over the fact that the responsible officials have in principle forgotten the struggle against U.S. imperialism. People ask how come many of the officials, instead of mobilizing all the forces of the masses for struggling against the plots of U.S. imperialism, have directed all their efforts for crushing the forces who anyway and by any means either before the revolution or during the revolution, had played a major role in the struggle against imperialism and counterrevolution. What happened is that once again the spirit of being superior and monopoly seeking have taken the place of cooperation, solidarity and constructive talks. Those who call themselves Muslims and revolutionaries have forgotten that no view or religion can be imposed by force on the people.

We are all aware that during these past few weeks the imam demanded the purging of all the former regime's remnants from all governmental organizations. But we all saw how some of the responsibles instead of paying attention to this recommendation of the imam, forgot the issue of carrying out purges while resorting to thoughtless actions and fanning the flames of the differences existing among the forces united toward the revolution. Todly we are able to see that while some of the hireling responsibles are attacking the true forces of the revolution, These very remnants of the former regime are hatching plots for a coup in the army, with the aid of their U.S. masters, and if it were not for the political vigilance of the people and the devotion of the revolutionary guards, and the forces united with the revolution, the very existence of the republican regime would have been placed under a question mark.

During these sensitive moments we again draw the attention of all the revolutionary forces and the followers of the imam's path to the reality that the danger of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and counterrevolution still exists and should not be belittled.

Land Issue

The second commentary, entitled "[Wordsindistinct] Is the Duty of the Foundations of the Revolution," says millions of landless farmers in our country are waiting to receive land and water. Even though the land reform law after many studies and reviews has reached a final decision, some hands have prevented the implementation of this vital law. People and millions of farmers demand the implementation of agrarian reform as soon as possible in order to eradicate the big landlords.

Despite the recommendations of the imam regarding this question, some hands have risen in government and military organizations in defense of the interests of plunderous big feudal landowners and thus strike the greatest blow to the revolution and its gains. The Iranian farmers are justly worried over their fate. These farmers have given numerous martyrs in the struggle against the former regime. They expect that an end be put to the exploitation of the feudalism.

Unfortunately this wish of the toiling farmers has not yet been fulfilled. Who are these opponents of the agrarian reforms? Why does not the government deal with them in a serious way? These opponents of the agrarian reform should be punished and the rights of millions of farmers returned to them.

Problems of Discord

TA152111 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 15 July carried two commentaries:

The first commentary, entitled "Let Us Reveal From [word indistinct] the Hands of Discord," says the planning of the recent coup plot was so extensive that it is very probable that everyone has not been able to grasp the depth of its danger. We are speaking of the plot of a military coup, in which all or nearly all the remnants of the former regime in the army, mercenaries trained by the CIA and the occupied Western territories [as heard] and all the world Savakists had participated; a plot by the shameless United States and Israel and international Zionism.

Just as the mercenaries of U.S. imperialism and Israel were planning to carry out their coup d'etat, U.S. warships neared our southern coasts. The United States has stationed a number of its Phantom fighters at Egyptian airbases with the approval of the traitorous As-Sadat. Thousands of former regime supporters had prepared themselves in Egypt and Israel to participate in this traitorous plot.

The question is: "Can this plot be considered the last plot of counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism?" Without any doubt the answer to this question is no. According to witnesses, neither counterrevolution nor their U.S. and Israeli instigators have ceased hatching plots to overthrow our republican regime and the gains of our revolution. There is not doubt that the noble, selfless, heroic Iranian nation, who threw the former regime in to the garbage pail of history, will struggle with all its might to safeguard the gains of its revolution. But we must keep in mind that counterrevolution and imperialism take advantage of every shortcoming in the foundations of the revolution, of every ill-considered action taken by responsible officials.

During these days when we have witnessed one of the most dangerous plots of the enemies of the revolution and the republican regime, we have often observed how (?discontented) elements have started to operate against the interests of the Iranian nation and its revolution and are trying to create discord among the forces true to the revolution. It only benefits U.S. imperialism if forces true to the revolution and followers of the imam's path are separated from each other. Experience has shown that counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism, especially when they are on the verge of carrying out any anti-Iranian plot, continue to try to turn public opinion away from the main danger with the aid of masked or unmasked hirelings. Unity and unity of action of all the forces united with the revolution are necessary to safeguard the revolution.

The second commentary, entitled "The Clergymen of Afghanistan in Defense of the National and Democratic Revolution of That Country," says as we are aware, the first conference of the ulema and clergymen was held in our neighboring country Afghanistan, where a resolution was passed.

Due to the importance of this conference we deem necessary to inform the dear compatriots of the outstanding points of this resolution. The ulema of Afghanistan demand that every Muslim Afghani support the government headed by Babrak Karmal. It is said that in Afghanistan there is complete freedom of opinion, science and expression, religion, national customs and complete liberty for exercising religious rites in mosques and houses.

The actions of a number of duped mercenaries of imperialism and reaction are considered against the principles of Islam. The terrorists who, under the false slogans of defense of Islam, murder their fellow Muslims are themselves godless people. The murderers of the Pentagon and their mercenaries, such as the armed militants in Pakistan and As-Sadat, the enemy of Islam are interfering in the domestic affairs of Afghanistan in the most shameful way.

The resolution confirms the decision of the DRA Government to seek the help of the most human-loving country, the Soviet Union, according to the friendship treaty between the Soviet Union and the DRA.

The resolution adds that all the Muslims of the world, while comprehending the religious duties and the difficult realities, should not deny that during the difficult and convulsive situation in the world today, the common enemies of the Muslims and of humanity are one and that these are extremely sly.

In the end the clergymen of Afghanistan called on all the Muslims of the world to extend a hand of friendship and brotherhood to one another in a common struggle for the freedom of consicious, peace, social justice progress and independence.

Observers consider the conference of the ulema tantamount to a forceful reply to the enemies of Afghanistan and counterrevolutionaries that are trying to use Islam as a means for their sinister and inhumane ends.

Dangers to Revolution

TA161904 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 16 July carried two commentaries:

The first commentary, entitled "The Dirty Hands of the Landowners Are Seen in Every Plot," says in a recent interview our country's president, Mr Bani-Sadr, rightly pointed out that the recent coup plot was the most dangerous plot against the Islamic Republic and the Iranian revolution. U.S. imperialism and remnants of the former regime do not refrain from hatching plots against the order of our Islamic Republic. After every defeat world-devouring U.S. imperialism attempts to push into the arena other black forces in our country, and in all these plots one of the main bases of U.S. imperialism and the counterrevolution are the big landowners and landlords.

The big landlords not only directly and indirectly participate actively in the plots of imperialism and the counterrevolution, but by resisting the implementation of the agrarian reform law they want to paralyze our country's economy and make the farmers homeless and discontent. Unfortunately some of the pseudoclergy are protecting these landlords and are preventing judicial and security officials from prosecuting and punishing them. The agrarian reform law must be implemented with complete decisiveness and the base of big landlords and the counterrevolution in the villages must be liquidated.

The second commentary, entitled "Let Us Sincerely (?Implement) the Cleansing of Administrative Organizations", says our military and civil organizations are in need of a broad and all-out cleansing. The great Khomeyni has repeatedly urged the necessity of a broad cleansing of all military and civil organizations to the responsible officials. However, unfortunately no due attention has been paid to this demand of the leader of the revolution and all the true forces of the revolution.

Just a few days ago the imam of the nation again ordered the cleansing of military and civil organizations and the elimination of all the satanic symbols and traces, but unfortunately there is still no sign of the cleansing which the imam desires.

We have repeatedly drawn the attention of responsible officials to this important principle that the revolution should not be a joke and negligence in the task of cleansing all military and civil organizations of counterrevolution elements and remnants of the former regime and Savakists is the worst and most dangerous form of joking with the revolution. Negligence in the task of the struggle against the counterrevolution and remnants of the former regime has reached such a stage that these sworn enemies of the revolution are sabotaging the work of military and civil organizations and on the order of the CIA and the Pentagon have plotted seven times against the Islamic Republic. It was just a few days ago that their coup plan was thwarted. One of the coup elements was that self-same person who ordered the bombing of the U.S. helicopters in Tabas. Why was he not identified and arrested at that time? Is this not joking with the revolution and Iran's independence? The recent events are a warning to the responsible authorities; administrative organizations should be cleansed with sincerity and revolutionary relentlessness.

PENSIONS HALTED FOR RETIRED ARMY PERSONNEL ABROAD

LD161030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, the president of the Islamic Army revolution tribunal of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced that pensions for retired personnel from the army, gendarmerie, the police and affiliated organizations of the Islamic Republic of Iran residing abroad will be stopped. The Islamic revolution tribunal of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, addressing the organizations concerned, announced that effective from the date of the issue of this order, no money will be (?allocated) to retired employees residing abroad under any condition, even those having the power of attorney.

(?Any negligence) in implementing this order will be answerable and offenders will be legally prosecuted. After the issuance of this order, any retired employee who returns to this country will have their background reviewed and an appropriate decision will be made.

AIR FRANCE FLIGHT REFUSED ENTRY, WAITS IN SHARJAH

LD161746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1639 GMT 16 Jul 80

[Text] According to the central news bureau about 50 Iranian passengers, mostly students, on an Air France flight which was due to arrive in Tehran last night are at present at [name indistinct] hotel in Sharjah. The flight was not able to land in Tehran because Mehrabad airport is closed. The Air France captain refused to accept conditional landing which involved remaining at the airport until the entry restrictions are lifted, as suggested by Mehrabad airport officials.

The Iranian passengers are comfortable at the [name indistinct] hotel and are the guests of Air France. They may either return to Dubai or Paris and then travel to Iran or they may stay in Sharjah until the entry restrictions are lifted.

MINISTER AIRS IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES WITH USSR

WA150830 Tehran TIMES in English 21 Jun 80 p 1

[Text] Baku, Soviet Union--"The ideology of the Soviet Union is only materialistic while Iran believes in both materialism and spiritualism," said Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Reza Salimi.

Salimi made the remarks following the Socialist Republic of Soviet Azarbaijan's Prime Minister Ebrahim Goaf who read a report on the industrial and agricultural progress in the republic.

Salimi who is visiting the Soviet Union as leader of an Iranian high powered economic trade delegation, yesterday called on Ebrahim Goaf and exchanged views with him.

Salimi said that the Soviets had over a long period used all natural and human resources to reach this developed stage in their progress. However he said, Iran's Islamic Republic had only recently been born and so it was difficult to assess or predict progress in the same terms.

He also said: "We try to use every opportunity to reach better levels of material and spiritual life but always in the context of Islam and the principles laid down by it in spiritual and worldly life."

He said that both countries revolted against tyranny so that deprived peoples could be freed from injustices and deprivations and made life more suitable but our revolution has not as yet reached fruition as we have only just begun. But we are certain we will be successful."

BEHESHTI EXHORTS PEOPLE TO LONG, COLD WAR

WA151700 Tehran TIMES in English 22 Jun 80 p 1

[Text] Tehran--Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti yesterday called Iranian authorities and people in Iran to prepare themselves to face an intensive cold war.

Beheshti who is the secretary general of Islamic-Republican Party besides being the head of the Iranian judiciary addressing a meeting in Ah'az which was called to discuss the economic problems of Khuzestan province said that the Iranian nation was engaged in a decisive battle against imperialist powers and added that the Iranian nation would have to face a cold war, if not a military confrontation.

He said to face a cold war it was necessary to change the direction of the struggle and added that people should be fully prepared to face all kinds of hardships to combat the effects of a possible cold war.

Beheshti said that the province of Khuzestan had great potential for industrial development but added that no efforts were being made to pool the resources and promote industrial development.

The meeting was attended by the governor general of Khuzestan and other officials who discussed various economic problems of this backward province.

Beheshti at this meeting said that the problems of this province could not be evaluated in Tehran and to examine them closely it was necessary to undertake a visit to this province.

The Iranian nation was passing through a crucial revolutionary phase and it was natural to face problems and difficulties after every genuine revolution, Beheshti said.

The situation in Iran was similar to a state of emergency and people should be prepared to face up to and adjust themselves according to the extraordinary needs of the situation, he advised.

Beheshti said that to accelerate the pace of development and economic progress, the existing system of management should be changed to bring it in full accordance with the revolutionary demands of the country.

DESPITE TURMOIL, ECONOMY STILL FUNCTIONING

WA151800 Paris AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO in English 23 Jun 80 pp 4-6

[Text] A correspondent just returned from Tehran writes:

Somehow or other, the Iranian economy keeps going. That is the rather bemused judgement of foreign experts living in Iran. But it is far from an optimistic diagnosis. These experts see what has gone before in the Islamic revolution as a period of relative prosperity that is now coming to an end. They forecast hardship and privations in the future, above all if the problem of the American hostages and the economic embargo imposed by Western powers drags on unresolved.

When the experts say that the Iranian economy keeps going, they do not mean that it is maintaining its normal rhythm. This would be a gross distortion of reality. Iran is in the throes of revolution and its economic machinery has been severely disorganised. Moreover, the leaders of the Islamic religious party who are taking control of the levers of political power afford scant importance to economic problems. Nonetheless, there is no threat of famine and basic requirements for food are being met more or less; despite widespread unemployment and the particularly acute difficulties being experienced by some sectors of the economy, the country's revenues, their distribution and the size of Iran's financial reserves lead one to believe that Iran is safe from economic catastrophe in the medium term.

Many Iranian leaders put up a show of optimism that sometimes smacks of insouciance. While President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr describes Iran as an economic "corpse," many of his entourage believe that he is painting a deliberately darkened picture for political reasons. They say that Iran's financial reserves have increased by $4 billion since the revolution, that the country's oil policies are now healthy and that reserves of crude oil still in the ground are being better preserved. Above all, they say, the economic boom when the shah was on the throne was totally artificial and bore no relation to what was needed to create real economic development. The picture is, however, by no means as rosy as that portrayed by these officials.

No revolution can survive on an empty stomach and foodstuffs are the commodities on which Iranian leaders keep a close eye. As luck would have it, this was the sector least affected by the revolution. The main reason is that Iran has a large peasant population which feeds itself. Secondly, if the shah can be said to have left his country a valuable heritage, it is certainly to be found in the system of agricultural cooperatives which he established. These look after the collection and distribution of farm produce, come what may.

Even so, there are grave difficulties in this sector because Iran must import so much of its food: One-third of its meat, half of its sugar, 15 percent of its wheat and large quantities of eggs must be brought in from abroad. The inhabitants of Tehran experience frequent shortages and price rises that are at times meteoric.

The macroeconomic balances that reassure the experts count for little in the eyes of the Tehran housewife, who notes that some foodstuffs like vegetable oil and eggs cannot be found one day out of two and that prices are going up rapidly. In theory, prices of essential foods are strictly controlled by the state and increases should not exceed 10 percent a year. But goods simply cannot be found at the official price and are only available to those willing to pay a "surcharge" which ranges from 40 to 300 percent, depending upon which product is involved.

Some examples: "official" meat costs 250 Rials ($3.50) per kilo, but it is next to impossible to buy steak at less than IR 600 ($8.60) per kilo. Eggs, in theory, sell at a controlled price of IR 145 ($2) per kilo but can be found only at a price of IR 250 ($3.50). The price of bread has almost doubled since the revolution, from IR 80 (just over $1) per kilo to IR 150 (slightly more than $2). Distribution of food has become disorganised and importing is difficult and expensive (eggs are flown in from abroad). The sanctions imposed by the U.S. and Europe, even though they are by no means fully effective, have hurt the housewife. But it is speculative hoarding by many unscrupulous merchants which is very largely to blame for the large surcharges.

For lowly paid workers, the increases in prices have been compensated up until now by the very considerable rise in their purchasing power since the revolution. In March of last year the minimum wage was tripled to IR 635 (about $9) a day and all wages below $350 a month were doubled. If one calculates inflation at the real rate of close to 100 percent since the revolution, it can be seen that purchasing power for low-paid workers has not gone down. But the situation is deteriorating rapidly and the effects of last year's wage increases have for all practical purposes been wiped out.

Three Million Unemployed

Unemployment is another problem that is unlikely to be solved in the near future. Despite the repeated denials of the Ministry of Labour, there are some 3 million unemployed in Iran today. Work on construction sites and on major developmental projects has been almost entirely halted and a large portion of industry has closed down. This has meant a nasty comedown for some Iranians. It is not rare to find qualified technicians driving taxis or selling cigarettes on street corners.

The state of the employment market has become so critical that the council of the Confederation of Workers, the main trades union group which is at present controlled by Islamic revolutionary militants, decided to issue a warning statement: "We are participating in the political struggles of the regime and we support it entirely," the statement declared. "Our faithfulness will withstand any test, but this period of anti-imperialist combat should not lead officials to neglect the workers and make them alone pay for the common struggle."

In sectors of the economy which are still working, the number of strikes has begun to increase. If this movement should continue, we could soon be witnessing a wave of social unrest in Iranian cities, above all, in Tehran, where problems are most acute. Aware of this danger, President Bani-Sadr and the ruling Islamic Revolutionary Council have declared that Iran is on a "wartime economy" footing. The government is trying to pass out credit for agricultural projects or to set up medium-sized industries in provincial towns, but money for these purposes is harder and harder to find. "We must give money for productive projects in order to bring the economy out of its lethargy and to prevent Iran from dying of hunger while seated on a heap of gold," is the way that President Bani-Sadr puts it.

Indeed, all Iranian officials still reason as if they had at their disposal a virtually inexhaustible mass of money. "This is a de luxe revolution," declared only a few months ago "Ali Reza Nobari, the dynamic governor of Iran's Central Bank. But official optimism has been seeping away ever since the publication of the budget at the end of May (AN-NAHAN ARAB REPORT & MEMO, May 26).

When all of the figures were totted up, it was seen that routine running expenses--salaries for government employees and other obligatory costs--would account for 90 percent of the revenues from oil exports of 1.5 million b/d. In fact, Iran's oil exports since the beginning of April have been 670,000 b/d under contracts to foreign oil companies together with spot market sales which have varied in accordance with the fluctuations of that market. Iran is therefore a long way from earning enough to ensure economic survival.

To be sure, Iran's oil revenues could be transformed from one day to the next if the issue of the 53 American hostages was settled since this is the main reason for the halt to oil sales, notably to Japanese companies. This is why those Iranian leaders responsible for day-to-day management of the country like President Bani-Sadr want at all costs to resolve the question of the hostages once and for all. Other factions, especially the Islamic religious party, continue to believe that the issue of the hostages is a "test case" for Islam and they refuse to consider the economic cost of this attitude.

If the hostages are held by the Islamic "students" for a prolonged period, foreign experts think that Iran could pay its essential budgetary bills from its financial reserves for about 10 more months, taking into account the fact that about $5 billion of these funds are frozen by the U.S. For the past two weeks, Iran has been repatriating large quantities of gold which has been deposited in European banks.

Pursuing Search For Foreign Trade

Having concluded important deals with India and Turkey (AN-NAHAR ARAB REPORT & MEMO, June 16), Iran is hoping to improve its commercial ties with Sweden, one of the few Western nations not to have joined the U.S.-led trade embargo. Foreign Minister Sadegh Qotbzadeh said after conferring with officials and industrialists in Stockholm last week: "We are hoping eventually for further collaboration and cooperation in our mutual interest."

He declined to go into details, other than saying that Iran's debts to Swedish companies, estimated at about $130 million, were discussed.

Iran's interest in developing trade with Sweden is further proof that economic sanctions by the West are beginning to bite; statistically at least, Sweden was hurt more than Iran by the slump in business after last year's revolution in Tehran. Yet it is the Iranians rather than the Swedes who are seeking to boost trade now.

As the tables show, Swedish exports to Iran nosedived from a total of about $222 million in 1978 to $70 million last year (figures for 1979 in this report are based on an 11-month average). The trade gap consequently widened in Iran's favour from $3 million in 1977 to $63 million the following year to $177 million last year. Sweden's second biggest export market in the Middle East and North Africa (after Iraq in 1977 and after Saudi Arabia in 1978), Iran ranked fourth in 1979, with only 5 percent of the total. In the two preceding years, Iran absorbed 18 percent of all Swedish exports to the region.

Iranian exports--chiefly crude oil--to Sweden fared much less badly. In 1977 they were worth $201 million, 17 percent of the total from the Middle East and North Africa; the following year they rose to $285 million, or 25 percent, dropping back to $247 million, or 16.5 percent, in 1979.

The UAE (which for the purposes of this report is grouped with Bahrain, Qatar and Oman) did far worse. Its exports to Sweden dwindled from $290 million in 1977 and $294 million in 1978 to $212 million last year. Considering the rise in oil prices during 1979, the volume of UAE and Iranian crude going to Sweden must have shrunk considerably.

The major beneficiaries were Saudi Arabia, whose exports to Sweden went from $390 million in 1977 and $364 million in 1978 to $700 million last year, and Venezuela, with comparative figures of $144 million, $119 million and $347 million. Nigeria also increased the value of its sales to Sweden from $144 million to $149 million to $232 million in the period under review.

Today, Sweden imports about 20,000 barrels of crude per day from Iran, equivalent to about 3.3 percent of its quota under IEA guidelines. There is little incentive for the Swedes to boost their purchases of Iran's highly priced crude however.

According to the OECD, Sweden's oil bill, $3.3 billion 1978, is expected to jump from $6 billion last year to $7.4 billion this year, helping to push inflation from 7 percent to 12 percent in 1980. Assuming a 10 percent rise in the average real price of oil between mid-February and the end of this year, the OECD said Swedish inflation would reach 13 percent.

The country's current account deficit was expected to increase from $3.8 billion in 1979 to $4.7 billion, the OECD said.

But with its trade with Sweden heavily in credit, and no serious reserves problem in the immediate future, Iran is expected to seek a higher level of imports from Sweden, rather than a greater volume of two-way trade. Sweden is well placed to provide Iran with the technology and high-quality goods which it is finding increasingly hard to come by.

MINISTER AUTHORIZES INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

WA161620 Tehran TIMES in English 1 Jul 80 p 2

[Text] Tehran--Permission has been granted to 382 industries with a projected investment potential of rials 10,276.3 billion and industrialists have been issued with licences to go ahead, a Ministry of Industries and Mines announcement said yesterday.

The announcement said that the licences were issued during the first three months of the current Iranian year commencing in Farvardin (March-April) 1980, and were valid for periods from 3 to 6 months. It is believed that the short periods of validity were decided on to ensure that the projects were initiated without undue delays and postponements. The licences were granted subject to cancellation if the projects were not started within the stipulated time alloted.

The industries slated for starting will include 57 industries for food and beverage items. Another 20 units are for the production of all types of cloth and textiles for which both small scale weaving industries and large textile manufactories would be set up. Paper and cardboard production units will number 17. For wood products and furniture making a further 16 units are envisaged. [paragraph continues]

And 42 units will include chemical, leather, skin and tyre industrial units. On the side of construction and heavy industries 158 units are proposed. 52 of them will be devoted to metals and metal production and 20 to electrical and non-electrical machinery, while the rest will be for other sectors.

An investment of rials 7,515.1 million is envisaged on industrial production plants which still have to get off the drawing board stage. Of this rials 3,278.6 millions is expected to be spent on imports of machinery and equipment, rials 1,091.4 millions on outlays for buildings, rials 545.7 millions for land and rials 2,603.4 as liquid capital.

Personnel employed is expected to reach the figure of 5049 persons in official and technical jobs on the projects.

A Ministry of Industries and Mines report, said that 34 units are already in production and the investment of rials 2,761.2 has already been put out. Rials 1,515.6 million has been used to buy machinery. Rials 505.3 million in construction of factory premises, rials 252.6 million on land and rials 487.7 million reserved as capital.

A total of 1,161 persons have already started work on these units and factories it was said.

RECONSTRUCTION GAINING MOMENTUM IN KORDESTAN

WA161830 Tehran TIMES in English 1 Jul 80 p 1

[Text] Sanandaj--Mopping-up operations in the entire Kurdistan region is now almost complete and life being restored to normal, Governor General of Kurdestan Dr Mehr-Asa told PARS NEWS AGENCY in an interview yesterday.

Life in Sanandaj, the capital of Kurdestan, was restored to normal almost 25 days ago and was the first to see normalcy in the region and the food situation was now fully under control with no shortages in the city, Mehr-Asa said.

However, the governor general has issued a stern warning to armed dissidents operating in Oramant, between Saqez and Marivan, to surrender failing which, he said, the villagers in this area would themselves push them out.

He added that food shortages in this area were still prevalent but once roads had been cleared of insurgents and made safe food supplies would be rushed in.

Gasoline and oil are being sent in from the capital and there appeared to be some shortages in coaltar needed for ashfalting damaged roads during the disturbances. It was hoped the governor general said that local authorities responsible would take measures to overcome the problem.

In Baneh, Qaraveh, Bigar and Saqez normalcy had been restored Mehr-Asa said. In Saqez the hospital has resumed functioning again and it was hoped that the Health Ministry would look into the question of sending out more personnel for staffing the hospital.

In Marivan the roads were made clear for communications by the Army and with its arrival last week foodstuffs and fuel began to reach the city.

The governor general further said that compensation of 50 percent of losses incurred by individuals and families in the region was being paid by government. A special committee has been formed to look into the question of compensation claims.

An attempt was being made to revive agriculture and production in general in the area and this was being done on a cooperative basis with interest free loans to entrepreneurs in agriculture and dairy farming who had the education and knowledge to make use of capital thus loaned.

The governor general, however, complained that the plan and budget organization were not paying as much attention as they should be to urgent needs in the province and requested government to siphon funds from the budget allocations for development purposes in the region.

ARDEBILI: JUDICIAL POLICE TO BE ESTABLISHED

WA161900 Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 8 Jul 80 p 12

[Text] Ayatollah Musavi Ardebili, member of the Revolutionary Council and prosecutor general of the country, said that after the necessary studies had been made, a charter would be approved to establish the judicial police. He added that the mission of the judicial police would be to enforce the rulings of the courts. After approval of this charter in a day or two, measures will be taken to organize the necessary offices and hire and train people for the judiciary police.

The general revolutionary prosecutor added that the members of the judicial police will be taken from personnel of the national police, the komitehs, and officials performing court duties.

It is anticipated that the entering into service of the judicial police will be an important step toward establishing the rule of law.

In closing, Ayatollah Musavi Ardebili said that the establishment of the judicial police, which will be to assist the judiciary system, a great deal of our judicial security which is now in disarray, that is delegated, will be carried out properly.